

# Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [A URL Shortener](#)

**A Powerade** - March 31, 2022, 11:56 am

I've made a public URL shortener. It uses some open source code on the backend, but I've customized it enough so it can be used on a public website. It also has an API that can be used to integrate with other websites or code.

I'm mostly concerned with how the front end looks as that's the most custom part about this whole thing lol.

Website: <https://kiip.li>

**Primeitup** - March 31, 2022, 12:22 pm

Really nice work man :) I personally think you could choose a better background image for the homepage but other than that great job.

**A Powerade** - March 31, 2022, 12:27 pm

(Mar 31, 2022 12:22 PM)Primeitup Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Really nice work man :) I personally think you could choose a better background image for the homepage but other than that great job.

True, right now its using a service that provides a daily image for free. Just using that right now till I can come up with a decent permanent one.

**SIM-2502833** - March 31, 2022, 12:43 pm

(Mar 31, 2022 12:27 PM)A Powerade Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) True, right now its using a service that provides a daily image for free. Just using that right now till I can come up with a decent permanent one.

A cool idea for a background could be using canvas to create a collage of the last 30-40 shortened links.

**A Powerade** - March 31, 2022, 12:47 pm

(Mar 31, 2022 12:43 PM)MrMcShroom Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) A cool idea for a background could be using canvas to create a collage of the last 30-40 shortened links.

That's actually a cool idea! I know a way to get screenshots of websites automatically, so I'd just have to figure out how to make that a collage that updates on its own.

**SIM-2502833** - March 31, 2022, 12:49 pm

(Mar 31, 2022 12:47 PM)A Powerade Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) That's actually a cool idea! I know a way to get screenshots of websites automatically, so I'd just have to figure out how to make that a collage that updates on its own.

Look into canvas. Or CTX. It should be relatively simple, all you need to do is write a database query from your last x shortened URLs, and run a function that inputs them into a canvas render, using some predefined color codes at random and random sizes, all easily done even with little experience.

**KnownSyntax** - March 31, 2022, 3:47 pm

Very nice, I ironically use the same open source software for the URL shortener and the same base theme that you are using as well (minus a few of the changes to the theme itself). Good job with the short domain name as well in order to boost people on using it.

**hotwheels52** - April 3, 2022, 10:38 pm

It's got form and function-- nicely done OP.